At a Meeting of the Protestant Episcopal Congregations held in Christ Church 12 January 1810 a Petition to the Legislature was proposed to them praying for certain alterations in the Charter so as to incorporate St. James Church with the other two Churches

Present

The Rt. Revd Dr. White
Tench Coxe
I. C. Stocker
Sam Hazlehurst
Jos Dolley
Jno Conrod
Isaac Doney
Paul Beck
Alphonso C. Ireland
Ephraim Clark
Geo Bringhurst
Danl Knight
Jos. Huddle
Hugh De Haven
Jacob Clark
John Merrill
Sam Wheeler
Jos Sims
Wm Davis
Benj. Clark.
John Merrill jun
Richd Thornhill
Sam. Wheeler jun
John Wheeler
Tho Cumpston
Benj. Chiffelle
Lewis Neill
Thos M'Euen

A motion was made & seconded that the Petition proposed to be sent to the Legislature should be committed to a committee who shall report in a few days — the question was taken on committing when it was lost — It was then moved & seconded that the said Petition should be adopted & sent to the Legislature — a question which was agreed to

Tho. Cumpston

Minute of a Meeting held
in Christ Church

To the honorable, the Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; the Petition of the Rector Church Wardens & Vestrymen of the United Episcopal Churches of Christ Church & St. Peters Church in the City of Philadelphia, respectfully sheweth

That on the 24th day of June in the year of our Lord 1761, a Charter was granted by the late Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, to divers members of the Episcopal Church of England residing in the City of Philadelphia, who were incorporated by the name of "the Rector Church Wardens & Vestry-men of the United Episcopal Churches of Christ church & St. Peters Church in the City of Philadelphia in the Province of Pennsylvania"

That in consequence of the Increase of the members of the said Churches, there was many who could not be accommodated with convenient Seats. They therefore at a very considerable Expence have lately built another Church in the said City, called by the name of St. James's

Church. It is the wish of the members of these three Churches to be united under one Charter, to be made as conformable as convenient may be, to the old Charter above mentioned. They therefore pray, that leave an Act may be passed, enlarging & altering the old Charter in the particular matters hereinafter enumerated & in no others, that is to say:-

1. The name of the Corporation to be, The Rector Church Wardens & Vestry-men, of the United Churches of Christ Church, St. Peters Church, & St. James's Church, in the City of Philadelphia.

2. The Rules, By-laws & Ordinances, shall not be repugnant to the Laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or of the United States

3 At the next Election of Vestry-men & for ever thereafter, the Vestry of the three United Churches shall consist of twenty four persons, members of the said Churches or one of them

4 The annual Income of the Property of the Corporation, not to exceed ten thousand dollars, exclusive of the monies arising from the letting

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of the pews belonging to the said Churches
or either of them, & also exclusive of the monies
arising from opening the Ground for Burials,
in the Church yards belonging to the said
Churches or either of them -

And your Petitioners further pray, that in all
other Respects the said old Charter may be
confirmed.

Petition

Whereas the Rector Church Wardens & Vestrymen, of the United Episcopal Churches of Christ Church and Saint Peters Church in the City of Philadelphia, by their Petition to this general Assembly have Represented, that on the twenty fourth day of June in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty five, a Charter was granted by the then Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, to divers Members of the Episcopal Church at that time called the Church of England, residing in the City of Philadelphia who were Incorporated by the Name of "The Rector
" Church Wardens & Vestrymen of the United Episcopal Churches
" of Christ Church & Saint Peters Church in the City of Philadelphia
" in the Province of Pennsylvania" — That in Consequence of the Increase of the Members of the said Churches, there were many who could not be accommodated with Convenient Seats, & they therefore at a very considerable expense had lately built another Church in the said City called S.t James's Church — that it was the Wish of the Members of these three Churches, to be United under one Charter, to be made as conformable as conveniently might be, to the Charter aforesaid, & the said Petitioners therefore prayed that an Act might be passed enlarging and altering the said old Charter only in the particular matters hereinafter enumerated and that in all other Respects the said Old Charter might be confirmed — — That is to say

1 That the name of the Corporation in future might be "The Rector, Church Wardens & Vestrymen of the United Churches of Christ Church, Saint Peters Church and Saint James's Church in the City of Philadelphia

2 That the Rules, Bye-Laws & Ordinances of the Rector Church Wardens and Vestrymen, should not be Repugnant to the Laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or of the United States

3 That at the next Election of Vestrymen and forever thereafter, the Vestry of the three United Churches should consist of twenty four persons members of the said Churches or one of them

4 That the Annual Income of the Property of the Corporation, should not exceed six thousand dollars, exclusive of the Monies arising from the letting of the Pews belonging to the said Churches or either of them & also exclusive of the Monies arising from opening the Ground for burials in the Church Yards belonging to the said Churches or either of them; And it appears to this General Assembly just and Reasonable, that the Prayer of the said Petition should be granted therefore

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it

hereby enacted by the Authority of the same that from and after the passing of this Act the aforesaid Charter granted by the former Proprietaries of Pennsylvania shall be enlarged so as to comprehend and unite the said three Churches of Christ Church, Saint Peters Church & Saint James's Church and the Rents and Revenues of the Corporation shall be applied to the maintenance and support of the Rector, Ministers & officers of the said three United Churches and the Necessary Repairs of the said Churches & their Church Yards and Parsonage Houses, & other Houses which do now or hereafter shall belong to the said United Churches and to no other use or purpose whatever, and instead of the Name aforesaid in the Old Charter mentioned the Name of the said Corporation shall be "The Rector Church Wardens & Vestrymen of the United Churches of Christ Church, Saint Peters Church and Saint James's Church in the City of Philadelphia", and the Members of the said St. James's Church shall have & enjoy all Rights & Privileges which under the old Charter aforesaid are had and enjoyed by the Members of Christ Church and Saint Peters Church aforesaid or either of them."

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid that instead of the Proviso in the said Charter, that the Rules Bye-Laws and Ordinances of the said Rector Church Wardens and Vestrymen, be not repugnant to the Laws and Statutes in force in the Kingdom of Great Britain, nor to the Laws and Statutes in force in the Province of Pennsylvania, it shall be sufficient if the said Rules Bye-Laws and Ordinances are not repugnant to the Constitution, Laws & Statutes of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or of the United States

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that at the time appointed by the said Charter for the next Election of Vestrymen, and for ever thereafter, the Vestry, instead of Consisting of twenty Persons as is ordained by the said Charter, shall consist of twenty four persons members of the said Churches of Christ Church Saint Peters Church and Saint James's Church or one of them

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that the clear yearly Value of the Messuages, Houses, Lands, Tenaments Rents, Annuities or other Hereditaments and Real Estate of the said Corporation instead of the sum of six hundred Pounds sterling mentioned in the said Charter, shall not exceed the sum of six thousand Dollars lawful Money of the United States exclusive of the Monies arising from the letting of the Pews belonging to the said Christ Church St. Peters Church and St. James's Church or either of them and also exclusive of the Monies arising from opening the ground for burials in the Church Yards belonging to the said Churches or either of them

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid that Nothing in this Act contained shall be construed so as in any manner to affect impair or alter the aforesaid Charter granted by the former Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, in any other matter or thing than what is herein before enacted, but that the said Charter in all matters and respects not herein before altered or provided, shall be firm and Valid for ever.

Application to the Legislature
for alteration of Charter

Senate....No. 51.

Hugh Hamilton, Printer...January 24, 1810. [S.

An Act enlarging and altering the charter of the rector church wardens and vestrymen of the United Episcopal churches of Christ church and St. Peter's church in the city of Philadelphia in the province of Pennsylvania and for other purposes therein mentioned

WHEREAS the rector church wardens and vestrymen of the United Episcopal churches of Christ church and St. Peter's church in the city of Philadelphia by their petition to this general assembly have represented that on the twenty-fourth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty-five a charter was granted by the then proprietaries of Pennsylvania to divers members of the Episcopal church at that time called the church of England residing in the city of Philadelphia who were incorporated by the name of "The rector church wardens and vestrymen of the United Episcopal Churches of Christ church and St. Peter's church in the city of Philadelphia in the province of Pennsylvania" that in consequence of the increase of the members of the said churches there were many who could not be accommodated with convenient seats and

they therefore at a very considerable expense had lately built another church in the said city called St. James's church that it was the wish of the members of these three churches to be united under one charter to be made as conformable as conveniently might be to the charter aforesaid and the said petitioners therefore prayed that an act might be passed enlarging and altering the said old charter only in the particular matters hereinafter enumerated and that in all other respects the said old charter might be confirmed That is to say

I. That the name of the corporation in future might be " The rector church wardens and vestrymen of the United Churches of Christ church St. Peter's church and St. James's church in the city of Philadelphia"

II. That the rules by-laws and ordinances of the rector church wardens and vestrymen should not be repugnant to the laws of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania or of the United States

III. That at the next election of vestrymen and forever thereafter the vestry of the three United Churches should consist of twenty-four persons members of the said churches or one of them

IV. That the annual income of the property of the

corporation should n
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SECT. 1. *BE it*
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corporation should not exceed six thousand dollars exclu-
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belonging to the said churches or either of them and also
exclusive of the monies arising from opening the ground
for burials in the church yards belonging to the said
churches or either of them and it appears to the general
assembly just and reasonable that the prayer of the said
petition should be granted Therefore

SECT. 1. *BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Represenatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same* That from and after the passing of this act the aforesaid charter granted by the former proprietaries of Pennsylvania shall be enlarged so as to comprehend and unite the said three churches of Christ church Saint Peter's church and Saint James's church and the rents and revenues of the corporation shall be applied to the maintenance and support of the rector ministers and officers of the said three United Churches and the necessary repairs of the said churches and their church yards and parsonage houses and other houses which do now or hereafter shall belong to the said United Churches and to no other use or purpose whatever and instead of

the name aforesaid in the old charter mentioned the name
of the said corporation shall be "The rector church
wardens and vestrymen of the United Churches of
Christ church Saint Peter's church and Saint James's
church in the city of Philadelphia" and the members of
the said Saint James's church shall have and enjoy all
rights and privileges which under the old charter afore-
said are had and enjoyed by the members of Christ
church and Saint Peter's church aforesaid or either of
them and no other except that until and at the election
for vestrymen to be held on Easter Monday in the year
of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirteen and no longer
the members of the church of Saint James who shall
have paid for a pew or setting in the said church previous
to the time of holding any election of vestrymen of the
said United Churches shall have a right to vote at such
election for the said vestrymen although it shall not ap-
pear by the vestry books that the person or persons so
voting have paid three successive years preceding the
time of such election for a pew or sittings in either of
the said churches

SECT. 2. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid* That instead of the proviso in the said charter

that the rules by-laws and ordinances of the said
church wardens and vestrymen be not repugnan
laws and statutes in force in the kingdom of
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SECT. 3. *And be it further enacted by the au aforesaid* That at the time appointed by the said
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SECT. 4. *And be it further enacted by the au aforesaid* That the clear yearly value of the mes
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that the rules by-laws and ordinances of the said rector church wardens and vestrymen be not repugnant to the laws and statutes in force in the kingdom of Great Britain nor to the laws and statutes in force in the province of Pennsylvania it shall be sufficient if the said rules by-laws and ordinances are not repugnant to the constitution laws and statutes of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania or of the United States

Sect. 3. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid* That at the time appointed by the said charter for the next election of vestrymen and for ever thereafter the vestry instead of consisting of twenty persons as is ordained by the said charter shall consist of twenty-four persons members of the said churches of Christ church Saint Peter's church and Saint James's church or one of them

Sect. 4. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid* That the clear yearly value of the messuages houses lands tenements rents annuities or other hereditaments and real estate of the said corporation instead of the sum of six hundred pounds sterling mentioned in the said charter shall not exceed the sum of six thousand dollars lawful money of the United States exclusive of the

monies arising from the letting of the pews belonging to the said Christ church Saint Peter's church and Saint James's church or either of them and also exclusive of the monies arising from opening the ground for burials in the church yards belonging to the said churches or either of them

SECT. 5. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid* That nothing in this act contained shall be construed so as in any manner to affect impair or alter the aforesaid charter granted by the former proprietaries of Pennsylvania in any other matter or thing than what is herein before enacted but that the said charter in all matters and respects not herein before altered or provided shall be firm and valid forever

March 16th 1810 passed the House of Representatives by a unanimous vote